

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace paragraphs **0003** and **0004** with the following rewritten paragraphs:

[0003] This application is also related to co-pending U.S. Patent Application No. 10/621,028 [~~Docket No. 9005/9~~] filed on even date herewith, entitled "Method And Apparatus For Providing A Terminal Independent Interface Between A Terrestrial Optical Terminal And An Undersea Optical Transmission Path."

[0004] This application is also related to co-pending U.S. Patent Application No. 10/613,521 [~~Docket No. 9005/10~~] filed on July 3, 2003, entitled "Method And Apparatus For Using Optical Idler Tones For Performance Monitoring In A WDM Optical Transmission System."